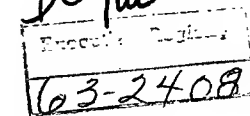


U. S. S. LAFAYETTE (SSB(N)616)

c/o Supervisor of Shipbuilding, USN
Groton, Connecticut



At Sea
North Atlantic
25 February 1963

Dear Mr. McCone:

We are returning from the first sea trials of the USS LAFAYETTE, our twenty-ninth nuclear powered submarine, and the eleventh equipped to fire Polaris missiles. The ship successfully completed all tests including full power, both surface and submerged.

The LAFAYETTE is the first of a new, larger class of Polaris submarines; she is also the largest submarine ever built. The increased size of the ship is used for better habitability and improved weapons systems. She will ultimately be armed with missiles having a range of 2500 nautical miles.

With the fourteen submarines included in this year's appropriations, the Navy will have thirty-five Polaris and forty attack nuclear submarines in operation, under construction, or authorized.

Sincerely,

H. G. Rickover

Mr. John A. McCone

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Washington, D. C.

NAVY review(s) completed.

(EXECUTIVE REGISTRY FILE Navy)